Confirmation of Surgeon General.

87. MR. N. DANIEL JOSE: Will the Honourable Minister for Medical be pleased to state the reasons for not confirming Dr. Miss. E. Samuel as Surgeon General?

HON'BLE MR. E. K. MADHAVAN: The question is under the consideration of Government.

Optician in the Eye Hospital.

88. MR. N. DANIEL JOSE: Will the Honourable Minister for Medical be pleased to state:

(*a*) the name of the Optician or Company doing business in the Government Eye Hospital at Trivandrum;

(*b*) how long has he been there;

(*c*) on what basis is an optician permitted to do business in that hospital; and

(*d*) is it open to other opticians also to apply for a place there?

HON'BLE MR. E. K. MADHAVAN. (*a*) There is no such optician or company.

(*b*) (*c*) and (d)In view of the answer to part (a) these do not arise.

Nationalisation of salt industry.

89. MR. N. DANIEL JOSE: Will the Honourable Minister for Excise be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether the question of nationalisation of the salt industry has engaged the attention of the Government;

(*b*) whether Government have come to any decision; and

(*c*) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) are in the negative, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state the reasons for the same?

HON'BLE MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) In view of the heavy financial commitment to be undertaken by Government for giving effect to nationalisation, details of the scheme are being investigated. Any decision can be arrived at only after seriously considering the various aspects of the question.

Overloading in transport buses.

90. MR. S. NILAKANTA AIYAR (*Trivandrum I—General*): Will the Honourable Minister for Transport be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government is not aware of the overcrowding and overloading in the transport buses;

(*b*) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, do the Government propose to take any action to prevent future overloading and overcrowding; and

(*c*) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative in how many days will the Government make arrangements to stop the present overloading and overcrowding?

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